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TRUCK-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. E. Graf, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

Walter Carter left Twin Falls, Idaho, on November 25 for St. Paul, Minn., where he discussed with Dr. R. N. Chapman, of the Experiment Station, the methods he is using for forecasting the abundance of the sugar-beet leafhopper. He arrived in Washington, D. C., on December 2, where he reported on the past season's work, and discussed plans for future work. Plans at this time are also being made for arrangements with the Bureau of Plant Industry for cooperative investigations on the sugar-beet leafhopper and curly-top. Mr. Carter returned to Twin Falls about the middle of December.

Mr. Swendsen, of the Amalgamated Sugar Co., Boise, Idaho, visited this office on December 5 and 6 and discussed the possible enlargement of the operations being conducted in the Intermountain Region against the sugar-beet leafhopper.

Messrs. Newborne and Lindenberger, of the Consumers Tobacco Co., Albuquerque, N. M., visited this office on December 5, and discussed the losses occasioned by the tobacco stalk-borer (Trichobaris mucorea) in the Southwest.

L. W. Brannon, Columbus, Ohio, attended the meeting of the North Carolina County and Home Demonstration Agents, at Raleigh, N. C., the week of December 12, where he gave a talk on the Mexican bean beetle.

J. U. Gilmore returned to Clarksville, Tenn., December 16, from his temporary assignment with the Federal Horticultural Board in the Southwest.

The following employees of this Division attended the meetings of the American Association of Economic Entomologists held at Nashville, Tenn., the week of December 27, in connection with the annual meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science: N. F. Howard and L. W. Brannon, Columbus, Ohio, C. E. Smith and Norman Allen, Baton Rouge, La., W. J. Reid, Jr., Chadbourn, N. C., W. E. Stone, Sanford, Fla., F. S. Chamberlin, Quincy, Fla., and A. C. Morgan, S. E. Crumb, and J. U. Gilmore, Clarksville, Tenn.

The temporary appointments of O. E. Gahm and W. M. Prevatt have been terminated, and G. A. Orum has resigned.

## FOREST INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. C. Craighead, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

In the early part of December Dr. Craighead and J. A. Beal, accompanied by L. Wyman, of the Southern Forest Experiment Station, spent about a week in northern Florida inspecting injury caused by the turpentine borer on experimental turpentine plots of the Forest Service. Of late this insect has been causing considerable apprehension on the part of owners of timber land who are attempting to practice forestry in the coastal plains region. The scheme of management adopted calls for long-time, conservative turpentine operations, and ultimate utilization of the timber, in lieu of the more destructive methods of turpentine practiced in the past. This borer has been found to attack the faces of turpentine trees after they had been exposed from four to five years, causing serious defect in the butt log and a high percentage of windfall. It appears, however, that the problem may be easily handled by slight modifications in the present conservative standards for turpentine recommended by the Forest Service.

About the middle of December J. M. Miller attended the meeting of the Society of American Foresters at San Francisco, Calif.

All western field work has been closed up for the year and practically all the men are now engaged in preparing reports of the last summer's activities. It has been found in California and Oregon that losses from the western pine beetle have generally increased during the year 1927.

The time of J. C. Evenden in 1927 has largely been consumed with the preparation of recommendations for control on the large Bitter-root-Beaverhead project directed against the mountain pine beetle in lodgepole pine. The outbreak of the beetle has assumed stupendous proportions, and hopes of complete control have been abandoned. The strategy now adopted is aimed at checking the southward spread of the center of infestation, so as to prevent its reaching the large merchantable bodies of lodgepole pine centering in and around Yellowstone National Park.

Dr. T. E. Snyder returned to Washington in the first week in December, from a western trip, begun on September 16, which included visits to California, Arizona, and Hawaii. His attention was given to investigating damage to buildings by termites and aiding in the formulation of building codes to prevent injury of that kind. Some of his activities while on this trip have previously been reported. Other information is given in paragraphs which follow.

For some time the Bureau of Entomology has advocated certain provisions to be included in building codes to prevent the damage just mentioned. Before going to the Pacific Coast Dr. Snyder visited Kansas

City, Mo., at the invitation of the city commissioners, and presented these provisions to the city officials. They will undoubtedly be included in a later revision of the city building code. At Phoenix, Ariz., on October 21, 1927, the Pacific Coast Building Officials' Conference adopted a uniform building code for the entire Pacific Coast, including the recommendations of the Bureau, presented by Dr. Snyder. Although in the past individual cities have adopted these recommendations, this is the first instance of their acceptance by a whole section of the country.

Dr. Snyder then proceeded to Honolulu, where similar but slightly more detailed provisions were suggested, and were accepted by the Territory of Hawaii, for a mandatory city building code, made to apply to both Honolulu and Hilo. These provisions will probably add from 1 to 2 per cent to the initial cost of the building, but they are a form of insurance, not only to the householder but to the party financing the building. This fact is realized very strongly in Hawaii, where bankers will loan more money, or give a lower rate of interest, to a home owner constructing a building in accordance with these provisions. Necessarily the provisions are very brief, practical, and reasonable. The chemical impregnation of all woodwork to be used in the building, as a further precaution, is recommended, however, to persons who can afford still greater expense, particularly in Hawaii, where termite damage to the woodwork of buildings is serious. This will increase the initial cost 10 per cent.

On his return trip to Washington Dr. Snyder visited Houston and Port Arthur, Tex., and New Orleans, La., all three cities favorably receiving these provisions for mandatory city building codes.

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#### CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

W. H. Larrimer, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

T. E. Holloway, W. E. Haley, and J. W. Ingram, of the New Orleans, La., laboratory, attended a meeting of extension workers, chamber of commerce representatives, and others, at Beaumont, Tex., on December 7, for the discussion of insect damage to sugar cane and corn in eastern Texas. Much interest was displayed in the recommendation for the control of the sugar-cane moth borer. Considerable damage by the borer and by the sugar-cane beetle was reported by county agents.

In the early part of December H. D. Smith, of the Carlisle, Pa., laboratory, made a survey trip relating to the work on the Hessian fly in the wheat-growing counties of Maryland and Virginia.

Dr. W. J. Phillips, in charge of the Charlottesville, Va., laboratory, was in Washington on December 16 consulting with Bureau officials.

## STORED-PRODUCT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

E. A. Back, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

J. C. Hamlin is completing his requirements for a doctorate at the University of Ohio. During this work his address will be B. & Z. Building, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

At the request of C. C. Hubbard, Director of Research and Education, Dr. Back spoke on December 6 before the present school of the National Association Institute of Dyeing and Cleaning, Silver Spring, Md.

George R. Bell and Louis R. Ogren, assistants at the dried fruit insect laboratory, resigned November 15 and 30, respectively.

On November 4 Perez Simmons and W. D. Reed attended the eleventh annual fig institute held in Fresno. Mr. Simmons read two papers; one by B. J. Howard, of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, entitled "Federal inspection and tolerance on figs," and one by Simmons and Reed, "The dried-fruit beetle and its control."

On November 15 W. D. Reed inspected the fumigable storage bins in which all the figs of two prominent fig companies in California have been stored during the present season. No living insects were found in stocks treated according to directions given by the Bureau. Messrs. Simmons and Reed planned these bins and had an important part in their installation. As considerable money was spent on their installation it is gratifying to the Bureau to find that they prove practical from a commercial standpoint.

A. O. Larson spent December 13 in Modesto, in search of suitable new quarters for the Bean Weevil Laboratory.

The report of A. O. Larson and C. K. Fisher for December indicates that at the end of the third examination of about 1,700 samples of cowpeas, drawn officially from the leading bean warehouses in and about Modesto, 63.7 per cent carried infestation.

The U. S. D. A. Clip Sheet, issued November 13 by the Press Service, calls the attention of the public to the fact that chests made of neutral wood but fitted with a solid red cedar bottom and lined elsewhere with red cedar veneer one-twentieth of an inch thick are not dependable as moth destroyers. If you are interested in a cedar chest for actual protection of clothing from moths, and not primarily for looks, purchase a genuine red cedar chest made of three-quarter inch heartwood, with covers either of solid cedar or cedar veneer. This may be had in the natural finish, or veneered on the outside with hardwood, or lacquered to meet a color scheme. All manufacturers are selling genuine red cedar chests as well as veneered chests. Whatever may be the claims regarding their efficacy issued by the manufacturer, only a

few visits to retail establishments will be needed to convince one that most salesmen appear misinformed, and are claiming no difference in effectiveness between the genuine and the chests lined with a cedar veneer. Frank Rabak, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, states that his analyses show that there is about 15 times as much cedar oil in the square foot of three-quarters inch cedar heartwood as there is in the same area of cedar veneer one-twentieth of an inch thick, and that the oil evaporates much faster from veneer than from the thicker lumber.

On the invitation of H. C. Cole, Secretary, Dr. Back attended the convention of the Insecticide and Disinfectant Manufacturers Association, held in the hotel Astor in New York City on December 14. Of special interest to entomologists was a motion picture exhibited by the Chemical Warfare Service depicting the warfare against insects.

The December issue of the "Furniture Manufacturer" contains an article, "Tobacco beetle as a pest of furniture," by Back and Cotton. One thousand reprints have been presented to the Bureau for use in correspondence. W. V. Morrow, editor of the Furniture Manufacturer, in writing Secretary Jardine on December 21, says, among other things, "The work Dr. Back and Dr. Cotton are engaged in is of great commercial importance to the furniture industry. It is rather odd to think of the Department of Agriculture being of such direct assistance in the manufacturing problem, but I know of no problem in the furniture industry now that is of greater importance than that of overcoming the insects."

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#### DECIDUOUS-FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. L. Quaintance, Associate Chief of Bureau, in Charge

Drs. A. L. Quaintance and B. A. Porter, and Messrs. O. I. Snapp, E. J. Newcomer, H. S. Adair, and C. H. Martin, all of whom are engaged in deciduous-fruit insect investigations, attended the meetings of the American Association of Economic Entomologists at Nashville, Tenn., in holiday week.

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#### BEE CULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

James I. Hambleton, Apiculturist, in Charge

W. J. Nolan attended the meeting of the Illinois Stage Beekeepers' Association at Springfield, and the meeting of the Wisconsin State Beekeepers' Association at Milwaukee, early in December. He also attended the meetings of the Apicultural Section of the American Association of Economic Entomologists held at Nashville, Tenn., during Christmas week.



## TAXONOMIC INVESTIGATIONS

S. A. Rohwer, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

Alejandro de Mesa, of Guagua, Pampanga, P. I., who is a student at Cornell University, visited several of the specialists in the Division on December 29 and looked over the collections. He was especially interested in the mounting and arrangement of collections.

Arthur Gibson, Dominion Entomologist, of Ottawa, Canada, was in Washington for the corn borer conference and visited his friends in the National Museum on December 19.

Kenneth M. King, of Saskatoon Laboratory, Saskatchewan, was a visitor in the Division of Insects from December 19 to 21, and brought with him a lot of undetermined material of coleopterous and dipterous larvae. He worked with Mr. Greene on the larvae of Diptera, and Dr. Böving determined his Coleoptera material for him.

Dr. Böving's paper entitled "Descriptions of Larvae of the Genera *Diabrotica* and *Phyllobrotica*, with a Discussion of the Taxonomic Validity of the Subfamilies *Galerucinae* and *Halticinae* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae)" was published in the December number of the Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington.

Frank Johnson, of New York City, visited the Division on December 21 and identified specimens of Lepidoptera with the help of Dr. Schaus. While here he added to his former benefactions by presenting another lot of rare species to the Museum Collection.

S. A. Rohwer and H. E. Ewing attended the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science held the last week of December at Nashville, Tenn. Dr. Ewing presented a paper entitled "The legs and leg-bearing segments of Pauropoda, Symphyla and Apterygota, with notes on leg-segmentation in the Arachnida" before the Entomological Society of America.

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## COTTON-INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

B. R. Coad, Entomologist, in Charge

Dr. J. W. Folsom attended the meetings of the Cotton States Entomologists and of other Associations at Nashville, Tenn., in holidayweek.

Dr. F. A. Fenton, of the El Paso, Tex., field laboratory, spent a few days at Tallulah about the middle of December in conference regarding the pink bollworm and other cotton-insect problems.



LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

NEW BOOKS

American Cyanamid Company.

The agricultural value of cyanamid. 47 p., illus. (Received Dec. 1927. n.p., n.d.)

Borgmeier, Thomaz.

Phorideos myrmecophilos da Argentina (Dipt.). Boletim do Museu Nacional do Rio de Janeiro, v. 2, No. 3, p. 1-33, incl. 9 pls., Sept., 1926.

Breuning, Stephan.

Monographie der Gattung Calosoma Web. (Carab.) Th. 1 Koleopt. Rundschau, Wiem, Bd. 13, Nr. 4/5, p. 129-208, Oct. 31, 1927.

Crawford, D. L.

La mosca de la Naranja de Mexico (*Anastrepha ludens*). Mexico Sec. Agr. y Fomento, Boletin Mensual, Ano 1, Num. 5, p. 373-427, Oct., 1927.

Dobzhansky, Th. and Sivertzev-Dobzhansky, N. P.

Die geographische Variabilität von *Coccinella septempunctata* L. Biol. Zentbl. Bd. 47, Hft. 9, p. 556-569, Leipzig, 1927. (Zitierte Literatur, p. 569.)

Dominican Republic. Estacion Nacional Agronomica y Colegio de Agricultura. Laboratorio di Entomologia.

Boletin No. 1-2. Santo Domingo, R. D., J. R. Uda, 1927. Contents: 1. La lucha natural o biologica contro los insectos daninos a los cultivos, Giuseppe Russo. 15 p., June, 1927. 2. Relacion de la enfermedades del cultivo de algodon, papa, berenjena y ceballa en la provincia de Monte Christy, R. D. Giuseppe Russo. 13 p., 1927.

Giglio-Tos, Ermanno.

Orthoptera. Mantidae. 707 p. Berlin & Leipzig, Walter de Gruyter & Co., 1927. (Das Tierreich Lfg. 50.) (Literaturkürzungen p. vii-xvii.)

Gortner, R. A.

Outlines of biochemistry (for students of the biological sciences.) 190 numbered leaves, diagrs. (n.p.), 1927. Mimeographed.

Jeannel, René.

Biospeologica L. Monographie des Bathysciinae. 436 p., illus. Paris, H. Le Soudier, Dec. 1, 1924. (Archives de Zoologie Experimentale, T. 63, Fasc. 1.)

Jeannel, René.

Monographie des Trechinae. 2 v., illus. Paris, Soc. Ent. de France, 1926-1927. (L'Abeille, v. 32, No. 3, p. 221-550, June, 1926, and v. 33, Jan. 31, 1927, 392 p. )

Kingsbury, B. F. and Johannsen, O. A.

Histological technique, a guide for use in a laboratory course in histology. 142 p., illus. London, Chapman & Hall, limited; New York, John Wiley & Sons, 1927. (References, p. 133-135.)

- Korschelt, Eugen.  
Regeneration und Transplantation. v. 1, illus. Berlin, Borntraeger, 1927. Contents: Bd. 1. Regeneration. 818 p.  
(Schriftenverzeichnis, p. 733-797.)
- Metcalf, Z. P., and Metcalf, C. L.  
A key to the principal orders and families of insects. Ed. 2, rev. and illus. 41 p. (n.p.) Published by the authors, 1927. Mimeographed.
- Myers, J. G.  
Biological notes on New Zealand Heteroptera. Trans. and Proc. New Zealand Inst., v. 56, p. 449-511, July 12, 1926.
- Pagenstecher, H. A.  
Beiträge zur Anatomie der Milben. Hft. 1-2, col. pl. Leipzig, W. Engelmann, 1860-61. Contents: Hft. 1. Trombidium holosericeum, Trombidium tinctorium. Hft. 2. Ixodes ricinus.
- Priesner, Hermann.  
Die Jugendstadien der malayischen Thysanopteren. 264 p., 16 pls. Buitenzorg, Archipel Drukkerij, 1926. (Treubia, v. 8, Supplement.)
- Priesner, Hermann.  
Die Thysanopteren Europas. Abt. 3. 343-586 p., illus., pls. V-VI. Wien, Wagner, 1927.
- Riley, W. A.  
Introduction to the study of animal parasites and parasitism. 119 numbered leaves. Ann Arbor, Mich., Edwards Brothers, 1927. Mimeographed. (Bibliography, p. 99-119.)
- Seguy, Eugène.  
Diptères (Brachycères) (Asilidae). 190 p., illus. Paris, Paul Lechevalier, 1927. (Federation Française des Sociétés de Sciences Naturelles, Office Central de Faunistique, Faune de France 17.)
- Sulc, Karel, and Zayrel, Jan.  
O epoikických a parazitických larvách Chironomidu. Ueber epoikische und parasitische Chironomidenlarven. 39 p., illus. Brno, K. Sulc, 1924. (Acta Societatis Scient. Nat. Moravicae, v. 1, Fasc. 9, sig.: F 9.)
- Swingle, M. C.  
The alimentary tract of the common bumblebee. Ohio Jour. Science, v. 27, No. 5, p. 219-231, illus., Sept., 1927. (Bibliography, p. 227.)
- Wettinger, Otto.  
Das Circulationssystem der Tipulidenlarven mit besonderer Berücksichtigung von Tipula selene. Zeits. f. Wissens. Zool., v. 129, No. 4, p. 453-482, illus. Leipzig, Oct., 1927. (Literaturverzeichnis, p. 481-482.)
- Zacher, Friedrich.  
Die Vorrats-Speicher- und Material Schädlinge und ihre Bekämpfung. 366 p., illus., 8 col. pls. Berlin, Paul Parey, 1927. ("Wichtigste Literatur," p. (352)-355.)